

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1 to 4, 6, 8 to 13 and 16 to 18 as follows.

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Cont  
1. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus comprising:

an image sensor;

a storage unit which stores ~~storage means for storing~~ predetermined data;

a display unit which displays ~~display means for displaying~~ the  
predetermined data stored in said storage unit ~~means~~;

a designation unit which a user operates to designate ~~designation means for~~  
~~designating by user input on the predetermined data displayed on said display means~~ an  
arbitrary point on the predetermined data displayed on said display unit ~~which is to be~~  
~~linked to an image to be taken~~; and

a control unit communicatively coupled to said storage unit and said  
designation unit,

wherein said control unit controls the start of an image taking operation to  
take an image in response to designation of the arbitrary point by said designation unit, and  
the generation of ~~generation means for automatically starting an image-taking operation~~  
~~when an arbitrary point is designated by said designation means, and for generating link~~  
information linking the image taken in the image-taking operation to ~~and~~ the arbitrary  
point designated by said designation unit ~~means~~.

2. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising an addition unit that adds ~~means for adding~~ the link information generated by said control unit ~~generation means~~ to the predetermined data or the image taken in the image-taking operation.

3. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said storage unit ~~means~~ further stores the image taken in the image-taking operation.

4. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said control unit ~~generation means~~ generates link information such that an image taken in an image-taking operation is linked to the same arbitrary point as an image taken in an immediately previous image-taking operation unless another arbitrary point is designated by said designation unit ~~means~~.

5. (Previously Presented) An image pickup apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the predetermined data is data representing a map.

6. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein images may be stored in said storage unit ~~means~~ in a hierarchical fashion according to the link information and/or such that the images are linked to each other.

Claim 7 (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a display control unit that controls a display ~~controlling means~~ ~~for controlling a displaying~~ process such that, when said image pickup apparatus is in an image reproducing mode, if a point having link information or a particular area adjacent to the point on the predetermined data is designated by said designation unit ~~means~~, then an image indicated by the link information as an image corresponding to the designated point is displayed.

9. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the predetermined data stored in said storage unit ~~means~~ is an image taken by said image sensor or an image input from an external device.

10. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the link information generated by said control unit ~~generation means~~ includes information indicating the arbitrary point designated by said designation unit ~~means~~ and also includes identification information of an image taken by said image sensor.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling an image pickup apparatus, comprising:

a displaying step of displaying predetermined data stored in a storage unit;

a designation step of designating an arbitrary point in the predetermined data displayed in said display step in response to operation of a designation unit of the image pickup apparatus by a user;

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an image taking step of starting an image taking operation to take an image in response to the designation of the arbitrary point in said designation step; and

a generation step of generating link information to link the image taken in the image taking operation of said image taking step to the arbitrary point designated in said designation step by user input on the predetermined data displayed in said displaying step an arbitrary point which is to be linked to an image to be taken; and

~~a generation step of automatically starting an image-taking operation when the arbitrary point is designated in said designation step, and generating link information linking an image taken in the image-taking operation and the arbitrary point designated in said designation step.~~

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 11, further comprising an addition step of adding the link information generated in said generation step to the predetermined data or the image taken in the image-taking operation of said image taking step.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 11, wherein said generation step includes generating link information such that the an image taken in the an image-taking operation of said image taking step is linked to the same arbitrary point

as an image taken in an immediately previous image-taking operation unless another arbitrary point is designated in said designation step.

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14. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the predetermined data is data representing a map.

Claim 15 (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 11, further comprising a display controlling step of controlling a ~~display~~ displaying process such that, when ~~the said~~ image pickup apparatus is in an image reproducing mode, if a point having link information or a particular area adjacent to the point ~~in on~~ the predetermined data is designated in said designation step, then an image indicated by the link information as an image corresponding to the ~~designated~~ point designated in said designation step is displayed.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the predetermined data is the image taken in the image-taking operation of the image taking step or an image input from an external device.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the link information generated in said generation step includes information indicating the

arbitrary point designated in said designation step and also includes identification information of the image taken in the image-taking operation of said image taking step.

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19. (Original) A storage medium storing a program for executing the method of controlling an image pickup apparatus according to Claim 11.

20. (Original) A storage medium storing a program for executing the method of controlling an image pickup apparatus according to Claim 13.

21. (Original) A storage medium storing a program for executing the method of controlling an image pickup apparatus according to Claim 16.

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